

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, July 28, 2003
MAG Office Building
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Roger Klingler, Scottsdale, Chairman
*Avondale: Esmeralda Avila
#Chandler: Jacqueline Strong
*Gilbert: Lonnie Frost
Glendale: Chris Ochs
#Goodyear: Joel Wade
#Mesa: Bill Haney
Peoria: William Mattingly for
Steven Bontrager

*Phoenix: Robert Hollander
Surprise: Rich Williams
*Tempe: David McNeil
Maricopa County: Dale Bodiya for John
Power
*Pinnacle West Capital: John Boyer
*Salt River Project: Ray Hedrick
U of A Cooperative Extension: Patrick Clay
Citizen Representative: Eugene Jensen

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.
#Attended by videoconference or by telephone conference call.

OTHERS PRESENT

Town of Buckeye:
Vice Mayor Alan W. Newberry
Town of Buckeye: Joseph Blanton
Town of Buckeye: Carroll Reynolds
Town of Buckeye: Woody Scoutten
West Maricopa Combine:
J. John Mihlik
Fluid Solutions: Norm Fain
Pacific Environmental Resources
Corporation:
Steve Owen

Pacific Advanced Civil Engineering:
James Matthews
Southwest Ground-water Consultants, Inc.:
Steve Noel
Pacific Advanced Civil Engineering:
Duong Do
Stardust Development: Rick Hurula
City of Glendale: Jerry Postema
Earl, Curley & Hagante: Stephen Earl
Maricopa Association of Governments:
Heidi Pahl
Maricopa Association of Governments:
Brenda Geisen

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee was conducted on Monday, July 28, 2003 at 4:00 p.m. Roger Klingler, Chair, City of Scottsdale, called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of the June 5, 2003 Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the draft minutes from the June 5, 2003 meeting. Jacqueline Strong, City of Chandler, requested that the minutes be revised to reflect that Robert Goff attended the meeting by audioconference as her proxy. Chris Ochs, City of Glendale, moved and William Mattingly, City of Peoria, seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the June 5, 2003 meeting with the requested revision.

3. Public Hearing - Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the Town of Buckeye Tartesso West Water Reclamation Facility

Chairman Klingler indicated that agenda item number three was for information and public hearing on the Draft MAG 208 Plan Amendment for the Town of Buckeye Tartesso West Water Reclamation Facility. He indicated that the purpose of the hearing was to receive public comments on the draft amendment and persons wishing to speak should fill out a form and adhere to the three minute time limit. Chair Klingler introduced Joseph Blanton, Town of Buckeye, to provide a briefing on the Tartesso project.

Mr. Blanton indicated that the Buckeye Vice Mayor was also present to provide history and background on the proposed Tartesso project. Mr. Blanton emphasized that Buckeye supports the proposed Tartesso Facility and it is a Town project which would lie within the Buckeye Municipal Planning Area. He indicated that a water agreement for the Sun Valley area, where the Tartesso Facility would be located, had been developed before annexation of the area. He indicated that the Sun Valley area has gone through considerable planning since 1998 and many area facilities for the project have been approved without objection.

Mr. Blanton indicated that the Tartesso Plant would be surrounded by residential development and the Town would not plan a facility that would be detrimental to Buckeye residents. Mr. Blanton indicated that evaluation of the Tartesso Facility shows that it would not negatively impact groundwater or any existing or planned wells. Mr. Blanton introduced Vice Mayor Newberry.

Vice Mayor Newberry indicated that he has been on the Buckeye Town Council since 1986 and was involved in the water agreement for Sun Valley. He indicated that there have been several plan review processes for the area with no opposition. He indicated that he does not believe that the Committee has jurisdiction for examining the link between the Tartesso and West Maricopa Combine Pipeline to the Future projects.

Vice Mayor Newberry indicated that the impact of the Tartesso project to the Combine project is a moot point because Tartesso is far from proposed wells and will introduce better quality water than the Combine's Central Arizona Project water. He indicated that Tartesso is a real project, not a conceptual one, and that it has been funded and approved by the Town of Buckeye. He indicated that the West Maricopa Pipeline is still conceptual and Tartesso is close to happening.

Vice Mayor Newberry indicated that he would like clarification on what West Maricopa Combine's concern is. He indicated that he thinks that the concern is for the Combine project to avoid the perception of withdrawing and serving reclaimed wastewater that has been treated and recharged.

Chair Klingler introduced Steve Owen, Pacific Environmental Resources Corporation (PERC), to provide an overview of the Draft MAG 208 Amendment for the Buckeye Tartesso Facility. Mr. Owen indicated that the facility would be located north of Interstate 10, west of Sun Valley Parkway, west of the White Tank Mountains, with an ultimate capacity of 18 million gallons per day.

Mr. Owen indicated that the facility would be financed by Stardust Development Corporation, and ownership would be transferred to the Town of Buckeye who would contract with a service provider. He indicated that the facility would be sized to accept flow from Tartesso West, Tartesso North, and surrounding properties. He indicated that the Tartesso West Master Plan estimates a population of 140,000 by year 2022. Phase One of the plant would be built to 1.2 million gallons per day capacity, and expansions would occur to accommodate growth. The plant site was selected for its good setbacks, good use of land, close discharge location, and ability to have wastewater flow to the plant by gravity.

Mr. Owen indicated that the plant would be a Hybrid Sequential Batch Reactor with tertiary treatment, ultraviolet disinfection, and an enclosed treatment system. The plant would meet Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Title 18 Class A+ Effluent Standards and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Class B Biosolids. He indicated that Steve Noel, Southwest Groundwater Consultants, would address the Committee's provisos included in their authorization to conduct the hearing.

Mr. Noel indicated that he is a hydrologist for Tartesso. He indicated that, as stipulated by the Committee, Goodyear and Buckeye had met to resolve the Goodyear concerns. He indicated that, as stipulated by the Committee, a hydrogeologic report had been prepared for Tartesso and had been reviewed by Buckeye, Goodyear, and West Maricopa Combine. He indicated that the hydrogeologic report would be submitted to the State agencies as part of the application for plant permits.

Mr. Noel indicated that he had met with Fluid Solutions, the hydrologist for the West Maricopa Combine Project, and with the City of Goodyear, and an impact analysis on recovery wells with respect to the Combine Project had been conducted. He indicated that the parties came to a consensus in terms of no negative Tartesso impacts on the West Maricopa Combine recovery wells.

Mr. Noel indicated that the parties agreed that a preliminary hydrologic model showed that no existing recovery wells would be impacted by the Tartesso project. He indicated that the model showed mound rise which would be a positive addition to the aquifer system. He indicated that the model showed that the proposed Tartesso project would reduce the impact of high Total Dissolved Solids water flowing into recovery wells.

Once again, Chair Klingler indicated that public comments on the Draft MAG 208 Amendment for the Buckeye Tartesso West Facility were welcomed. Chair Klingler indicated that he had received a card from Carroll Reynolds, Town of Buckeye, and he invited him to provide public comment.

Mr. Reynolds indicated that the State agencies are very concerned about water management and have regulatory requirements and controls on the quality of water that may be introduced into the aquifer. He indicated that State monitoring requirements have become more strict and the Tartesso Facility would produce Class A+ water and lower Total Dissolved Solids than the water to be recharged by

the Combine. He indicated that Tartesso would help prevent the Combine project from drawing in existing high Total Dissolved Solids water from south.

Chair Klingler indicated that he had received a card from Woody Scoutten, Town of Buckeye and he invited him to provide public comment.

Mr. Scoutten indicated that he did not wish to speak after all.

Chair Klingler indicated that he had received a card from Stephen Earl, Earl, Curley & Hagante, and he invited him to provide public comment.

Mr. Earl indicated that, at the last meeting, a concern was brought up over whether effluent pond and percolation could affect the West Maricopa Combine Pipeline Project. He indicated that he wanted to better understand the Combine's concern. He indicated that the Combine does not yet have an agreement with any city, but wants to put Central Arizona Project water into the Hassayampa River for recharge, then withdraw water near Interstate 10 and send it to other cities.

Mr. Earl indicated that he thinks that the Combine is concerned that effluent could mix with groundwater and affect recovery. He indicated that Steve Noel has assured him that there would be no negative impact. He indicated that the Combine would have the opportunity to present concerns to ADEQ during their permitting process.

Chair Klingler indicated that he had received a card from Norm Fain, Fluid Solutions and he invited him to provide public comment.

Mr. Fain indicated that he represents the West Maricopa Combine and potential users of the Pipeline, which may eventually include many cities and even Buckeye. He indicated that the Combine's concern was not that Tartesso is a bad project and that the Combine actually thinks it will be a good project. He indicated that the Combine wants to make sure that water quality from the Tartesso project does not present problems in the future.

Mr. Fain indicated that the Combine met with Steve Noel and put together a list of issues and possible solutions. He indicated that the Combine raised the concerns with Tartesso during the 208 process to get a statement that ADEQ will review the issues during their permitting process. He indicated that the Combine is asking for Total Organic Carbons to create an increase of less than one milligram per liter, a limitation on Nitrogen, and to consider that Endocrine Disruptors may be a problem in the future.

Chair Klingler indicated that he had received a card from John Mihlik, West Maricopa Combine, and he invited him to provide public comment.

Mr. Mihlik indicated that the West Maricopa Combine does not oppose the proposed Tartesso Project, and that he only wants to see that safeguards are built into the project. He indicated that there are an existing 150 homes in the area which no one has brought up and that these residents are very real. He indicated that the Combine's recharge project is on its way and a siphon sheet has already been built into the canal for the project. He indicated that the Combine has received a letter

of intent from the City of Goodyear and all that is left is an actual contract. He indicated that the Combine wants to be reasonable and cooperate to consider additional monitoring to ensure safety in the future.

Chair Klingler indicated that, since there were no further members of the public wishing to comment, he would close the public hearing and the Committee meeting would continue.

4. Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the Town of Buckeye Tartesso West Water Reclamation Facility

Chair Klingler indicated that agenda item number for was for information, discussion and possible recommendation to approve the Draft MAG 208 Amendment for the Buckeye Tartesso West Water Reclamation Facility. Chair Klingler indicated that the Committee was requested to consider public comments received and bring forward any questions or discussion on the draft amendment.

Dale Bodiya, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department, inquired why it was proposed to build the Tartesso Plant in 1.2 million gallon per day increments and indicated that the more smaller components to a plant, the less effective plant operation becomes.

Mr. Owen indicated that a phasing study had been prepared with a number of scenarios to be chosen based on growth and it is available for viewing. He indicated that James Matthews, Pacific Advanced Engineering Corporation (PACE), was engineer for the project and could address the question.

Mr. Matthews indicated that the idea was to maximize plant efficiency by providing alternative scenarios and the general design was for 1.2 million gallon per day capacity and subsequent expansions to accommodate future population growth.

Chair Klinger inquired what portion of the reclaimed water from the plant would be used for each discharge method.

Mr. Matthews indicated that the initial goal is to recharge 100 percent of the reclaimed water and that economic benefits for the Town of Buckeye exist with both reuse and recharge. He indicated that, in the long term, the Town wants to capture groundwater recharge credits.

Chair Klingler indicated that potential golf course use had been identified in the previous Committee meeting and inquired whether Tartesso still planned this type of reuse.

Mr. Matthews indicated that it was possible that 10 to 15 percent of the reclaimed water could be used for golf course reuse.

Chair Klingler inquired what would be done with the reclaimed water during periods when the golf course does not need it.

Mr. Matthews indicated that the reclaimed water would be recharged during those periods.

Chair Klingler inquired whether Joel Wade, City of Goodyear, (attending by videoconference) had any questions on the project.

Mr. Wade indicated that he did not have questions on the project.

Chair Klingler indicated that West Maricopa Combine had asked that ADEQ review the proposed Tartesso project and inquired whether there would be ADEQ review of the Tartesso project during their permitting process.

Mr. Owen indicated that the permitting processes for the ADEQ and the Arizona Department of Water Resources include such review.

Chair Klingler inquired whether Mr. Owen would object o ADEQ doing their normal review of the Tartesso project during the permitting process.

Mr. Owen indicated that Tartesso has no objection to ADEQ doing their normal review and that Tartesso is required to submit to the ADEQ process just like everyone else.

Chair Klingler inquired whether Bill Haney, City of Mesa, and Ms. Strong (both attending by audioconference), had any questions on the project.

Mr. Haney and Ms. Strong both indicated that they did not have questions on the project.

Chair Klingler indicated that the Committee was requested to take action to recommend approval of the Draft MAG 208 Amendment to the MAG Management Committee.

Mr. Ochs moved to recommend approval of the Draft MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan for the Town of Buckeye Tartesso West Water Reclamation Facility. Mr. Mattingly seconded, and Chair Klingler indicated that, since some Committee members were attending by audio and videoconference, a role call vote would be conducted. A role call vote was conducted and it was unanimously passed by the Committee to recommend approval of the draft amendment to the MAG Management Committee.

5. Call to the Public

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the Water Quality Advisory Committee. No comments were received and the meeting was adjourned.